



#12/C  
PATENT 3-17-01  
28911/34561

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Horton )  
Serial No.: 09/027,654 )  
Filed: February 23, 1998 )  
For: In-Situ Cell Extraction and )  
Assay Method )  
Group Art Unit: 1641 )  
Examiner: Gailene R. Gabel )  
I hereby certify that this paper is being  
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Washington, DC 20231 on this date:  
March 6, 2001  
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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 6, 2000 in which all pending claims (1-2, and 4-20) stand rejected under one or more of 35 U.S.C. §§112 (second paragraph) and 103(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following amendments and remarks.

**AMENDMENT**

In the Claims:

*C-Subbley*  
17. [AMENDED] The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture comprises a tracer.